

Your Past, Present and Future

Chapter Meetings are generally held on the third Tuesday of the month and include networking hour, technical presentation and dinner.

Board meetings are regularly held on the first Tuesday of the month.

- 09/18/18 Architectural Scavenger Hunt
- 10/16/18 Insulated Concrete Forms
- 11/27/18 Where the Roof Meets the Wall
- 12/07/18 Holiday Party
- 01/15/19 Code Jeopardy
- 02/19/19 Making it New Again - Navigating Renovations to Historical Buildings
- 03/19/19 Residential Building Permitting**
- 04/16/19 Fire Protection System Permitting and Combustibility Testing
- 05/21/19 Holy Name Turbine
- 06/18/19 Braveheart's Baseball Outing
- 07/26/19 Construction Industry Summer Open

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This Month's Chapter Meeting:

PROGRAM: Residential Permit Cheat Sheet – When Do You Need One and How Do You Get It?

This month's presentation and interactive discussion will be about maneuvering through the residential code and the process involved with securing a building permit. One of the objectives is to continue to promote a working relationship between building officials, design professionals, construction supervisors, and property owners, resulting in projects providing safe occupancy.

The program is pending approval by the AIA for 1 HSW continuing education credit. After participating in this program, attendees will be able to:

1. Prepare comprehensive permit documents for residential projects.
2. Identify minimum required permit information required for approval on construction documents.
3. Recognize when residential projects can be constructed without licensed design professionals.
4. Understand aspects of the IRC modified by and unique to Massachusetts.

Approved by the AIA for 1 HSW credit.

WHEN: Tuesday March 19th, 2019
5:00 – Cocktails, meet & greet
5:30 – Program Presentation
6:30 – Dinner

WHERE: Leo's Ristorante
11 Leo Turo Way
Worcester, MA

COST: Program: Free
Dinner: \$20 (students free)

RSVP: neregcsi@gmail.com



OUR PRESENTER:

With a bachelor's degree in structural engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Patty Sheehan began her career 22 years ago as a local inspector and progressed to her current position of the Inspector of Buildings in 2010. Prior to her current position, her previous experience included bridge design, field work on commercial buildings, and plans examiner for the City of Worcester. Additionally, Patty earned a master's degree in secondary education at Worcester State University which propelled her to teach continuing education and preparation classes for the construction supervisor license.

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Nault Architects, Inc.
Worcester, MA 508.755.6134
steve@naultarchitects.com

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Antonelli Construction Co., Inc.
Worcester, MA 508.753.7436
tevy@townisp.com

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Sterling Concrete
North Oxford, MA 978.422.8282
msheehan@sterlingconcrete.net

Chapter Director: Neil Dixon, RA, CSI, CDT
Dixon Salo Architects, Inc.
Worcester, MA 508.755.0533
ndixon@dixonsaloarchitects.com

Chapter Director: Roland M. Barrett, CSI
Milford, MA 508.478.3192
barrettr@comcast.net

Chapter Director: Peter Caruso, RA, CSI, AIA, LEED AP
Lamoureux Pagano & Associates, Inc.
Worcester, MA 508.752.2831
pcarus@lamoureuxpagano.com

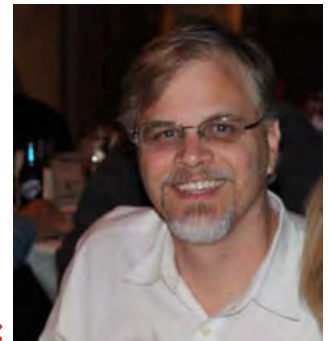
Chapter Director: Jacquelyn Baum, CSI, NCARB
Lamoureux Pagano & Associates, Inc.
Worcester, MA 508.752.2831
jbaum@lamoureuxpagano.com

Chapter Director: Martin J. Helly, CSI, CDT
MH Specs LLC
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From the President's Desk:

Stephen VanDyke, CSI, CDT, NCARB

The other day, a product rep dropped into my office unannounced, to introduce himself. He moved to the area recently and was hoping that I'd trust his advice enough to stop specifying his competitor's product and start specifying his. My first question to him was, "Do you hold CCPR Certification through CSI?". His answer was no, and so I politely suggested that he come to a CSI meeting, maybe join the group to meet other designers/specifiers in the area, and pursue his CCPR. Sadly, I don't think he took my advice.

One of the benefits of CSI is the opportunity to pursue Certification in a variety of categories to illustrate to the outside world that you're a qualified professional. The base level certification is the Construction Document Technologist (CDT) which conveys that you have a broad mastery of a variety of project delivery techniques, understand the interface between the drawings, specifications and other contract documents and have the requisite skills needed for project management.

The CDT is the entry level certification which is a prerequisite for higher level certifications which can be obtained in specialized areas.

- Owners/Designers can earn the Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA), evidencing a thorough understanding of the contract side of things such as bidding, negotiation, inspections and Division 0-1 requirements
- Product Reps can earn the Certified Construction Product Representative (CCPR), illustrating a deep understanding of how the information on the product they sell interfaces to the Construction Documents.
- Specifiers/Designers can earn the Certified Construction Specifier (CCS), ensuring they have a mastery of the interface of all sections of the project manual, well beyond the simple editing of some ARCAT sections on a website.

What client wouldn't gravitate toward a credentialed individual over a non-credentialed one? What young professional wouldn't benefit from a better understanding of project delivery; something barely covered in University education? Chances are, you already know most of what you need to know to pass the exam and gain your certification.

The Spring exam for the CDT is April 15 – May 24, so there is still time to prepare. Part of your membership includes use of the resources on the Institute website www.csiresources.org. There, on the Education tab, you'll find webinars which can help prime you for the exam, and on the Certification tab you'll find explanations of the exam, you can download a free Candidate Handbook and buy copies of the Project Delivery Practice Guide and a Study Workbook.



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Simon Braune, Grove Products, Inc.
PO Box 240 17 Marguerite Avenue
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1(800)72-Grove * Fax (978)840-4130
sbraune@groveproductsinc.com



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21 Adams St – Worcester, MA 01604
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Michael Lapomardo, CSI, CDT Mark Lapomardo, CSI
Telephone: 508-753-7436 Email: admin@antonelliconstruction.com

Am I Annoying You?

As soon as a Project becomes a reality, we all hope for a piece of it. Let's face it, no matter what our role is in the construction process, we all are in the business to find business and make money. The misconception that only Product Reps "Sell", is debunked by the fact that whether we are the hottest Spec Writer, Architect, Contractor or Sub/Supplier in the Market, we all want to be known and we do our best to promote ourselves to the "right" person who can help us get our share of the work.

Sure, there are companies that have such an amazing reputation for the quality and value of their work, that they actually turn work away, but the majority of us have to work every day to be known. There are so many ways to achieve this, but the skill is to learn not to push your service or product on the potential customer. The goal should be, in all of the circles you operate in, that you introduce yourself and show a genuine interest in what others do. Listening and developing relationships breaks down typical stereotypical barriers that might otherwise make you appear as someone who is only interested in pushing a product or service.



Construction Specifications Institute is a great place to develop these skills. As you get to know people, you will learn to interact socially and professionally, but most of all, you will gain confidence in your ability to present yourself as a colleague who has a genuine interest in being a part of a project when the opportunity presents itself.



Martin J. Helly Jr.

Architectural Specifications
Building Material Consulting
Worldwide from Florence, MA
413.586.7769
marty@mhspecs.com

Building Code vs. Residential Code:

The Massachusetts State Building Code consists of a series of international model codes and state-specific amendments adopted by the Board of Building Regulation and Standards (BBRS). The BBRS regularly updates the state building codes as new information and technology becomes available and change is warranted.

The MSBC is separated into two distinct volumes: The Residential volume regulates all one- and two-family structures and townhouses that are three stories or less, as well as their accessory structures; The Base volume regulates all structures that are not covered by the Residential regulations.

The base documents for the MSBC commercial and residential codes are the International Building Code and the International Residential Code. A primary difference between the two is the reliance of the Residential Code on prescriptive requirements related to platform and balloon frame construction of light-frame buildings. This allows designers, contractors and inspectors to rely on simpler proven systems for foundations, walls, floors and roofs as well as piping and ventilation systems rather than requiring a thorough engineering analysis of each individual element of the building.

Throughout the residential code, there are provisions that allow for engineered design where non-conventional structures and systems are proposed or where an element is not conforming to the standard prescriptive criteria. If the performance can be shown through accepted engineering practice to demonstrate compliance, non-standard approaches can be considered. The burden falls upon the design professional to demonstrate to the local jurisdiction how the applicable criteria are being met.

Michael Sheehan
Sales

Plants
Sterling - Oxford

STERLING
CONCRETE
10 Sterling Way
P.O. Box 786
North Oxford, MA 01537

978-422-8282
Cell 774-329-9166
Fax 508-731-6180
Toll Free 877-422-8282
msheehan@sterlingconcrete.net
www.sterlingconcrete.net

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323 Southwest Cutoff - Worcester, MA 01604

Bill Sharp, President 508-752-2313

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800 Hartford Turnpike
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Chapter Board Notes:

We met at Willikers on February 5th. Here are a few highlights:

- Terri Bracken will distribute a Dynamic Chapter Program Score Card to rate our Programs.
- The February Program, which focused on the challenges of working on a Historical Building, with speakers Sue Arena and Deb Packard, was well attended. We saw several new faces in the group.
- In March, Patti Sheehan, the Building Inspector for the Town of Shrewsbury, will go over the current Residential Codes. We expect this to be a popular Program. April has us at the WPI Burn Lab for a Spray Fireproofing Presentation.
- Terri, Marty Helly and Roland Barrett continue to provide us with the monthly newsletter along with Jackie Baum and Mike Helly handling Social Media.
- We are considering a Young Professional Social for the 21+ crowd. Mike Sheehan and Steve Van Dyke will explore the Apex Center in Marlboro before the March BOD Meeting.
- The Northeast Regional Conference is May 30th to June 1st in Hartford Ct. Check the Website for more information.
- The Nominating Committee for the BOD Elections is: Neil Dixon, Steve and Jackie. The Ballot will be issued in March for April Elections.
- Our next BOD at Willikers is March 5th at 5pm

Membership Update:

We'd like to thank our members who renewed this month:

- David Adams of F W Madigan Company - 1 year
- Mark Lapomardo of Antonelli Construction - 21 years

Welcome to our newest chapter members:

- Julie Davenport, Construction Project Manager at Cutler Associates.
- Thomas Ryan, Senior Project Manager at Mangel Architects.

Making it New Again: Navigating Renovations to Historical Buildings:

Worcester is filled with individual buildings and entire neighborhoods of historic treasures. Owning a property, or being charged with working on one, can be a daunting challenge as you try to navigate the various rules and regulations.

In February we were pleased to have Sue Arena, the Preservation Planner for the City of Worcester and the liaison to the Worcester Historical Commission. Also, Deb Packard, the Executive Director of Preservation Worcester, which is a grassroots advocacy group dedicated to historic preservation and excellence in new design. Both talked about their experiences in dealing with protected properties and neighborhoods, and the rules for working on them. We learned about who to contact to obtain approvals to perform work, they discussed tax credits, green incentives and Code concessions. They talked about specific case studies of successful projects as well as failures.



The Program, which was AIA approved for 1 HSW Credit helped us understand the laws and regulations that apply to working on historical structures, the advantages a Historical classification offers through the Accessibility and Energy Code, to identify what constitutes a regulated property and who has jurisdiction over them, and the inappropriate and appropriate methods of working on these structures.

The event was well received and attended with several new guests. If you'd like to enjoy an evening with likeminded people in the construction industry, please look for future programs in our Newsletter.



CSI Northeast Region Conference:

Time to Make Your Plans to Attend or Exhibit!

The Northeast Region CSI Conference will be in Hartford this year, May 30th to June 1st. This event is for all members of our industry, not just your chapter leadership.

Thursday features the opening of the event with an evening Welcome Reception – and for baseball fans interested in a preconference activity, the Hartford Yard Goats, AA affiliate of the Colorado Rockies, will be playing a day game just a 4 minute walk from the hotel at the recently completed Dunkin Donuts Park.

Friday is an exhibit and education day. The exhibit hall will be open from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Education sessions will be held during the day with the main presentation space right on the show floor. All sessions focus on the Challenges of Cold Weather Construction and how to solve issues that affect all of us here in New England. Our keynote during the lunch hour Friday will have you Elevate Your Expectations. Professional Engineer Rohan Freeman, an accomplished mountaineer who has ascended the “Seven Summits”, the tallest peaks on each of the 7 continents as well as made treks across both the North and South Poles will inspire us explaining how he applies the ability to meet extreme challenges to raising clients expectations in his engineering, realty and construction companies.

Friday evening is time for the conference banquet, complete with an appearance from Mark Twain.



Saturday is a day for continuing professional and leadership development as well as CSI business activities for the membership. Workshop presentations will help you navigate social media, get a return on your website, take advantage of certifications to advance your career, and find out what we’ve learned about marketing events in CSI’s Dynamic Chapter Program.

The details are all online at NERCSI.COM. Registration for attendees and exhibitors is open NOW.

Assistance is available from the Worcester Chapter to help our members attend. Talk to board members for information.

Thanks to these companies for their early commitment to participate:





RESIDENTIAL PERMIT CHEAT SHEET – WHEN DO YOU NEED ONE AND HOW DO YOU GET IT?



WHEN: Tuesday March 19, 2019
5:00 – Networking
5:30 – Program
6:30 – Dinner

WHERE: Leo's Ristorante

11 Leo Turo Way
Worcester, MA 01604

COST: Program: Free
Dinner: \$20 (students free)

Residential construction has evolved significantly over the last 20 years or so. A nice Sunday drive thru towns east of Worcester such as Shrewsbury, Boylston, Northborough, and Southborough and you can easily see that Architects are no longer designing and Contractors are no longer building, the traditional cape or split entry style house anymore. They are designing and building larger houses, typically in a development, that in some cases barely fit on the parcel of land it sits on. There's no better example of this than in the town of Shrewsbury; an affluent town that has increasingly become more desirable to live in. Residential construction can be seen in every corner of town. But, like anything, there is a process and codes that have to be considered. At the head of this is the building inspector who has the responsibility of enforcing those codes and approving permits. For the town of Shrewsbury, those responsibilities fall upon Patty Sheehan, the Inspector of Buildings.

With a bachelor's degree in structural engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Patty began her career 22 years ago as a local inspector and progressed to her current position in 2010. Prior to her current position, her previous experience included bridge design, field work on commercial buildings, and plans examiner for the City of Worcester. Additionally, Patty earned a master's degree in secondary education at Worcester State University which propelled her to teach continuing education and preparation classes for the construction supervisor license.

This month's presentation and interactive discussion will be about maneuvering through the residential code and the process involved with securing a building permit. One of the objectives is to continue to promote a working relationship between building officials, design professionals, construction supervisors, and property owners, resulting in projects providing safe occupancy. Who better than Patty to lead this presentation!

The program is pending approval by the AIA for 1 HSW continuing education credit. After participating in this program, attendees will be able to:

5. Prepare comprehensive permit documents for residential projects.
6. Identify minimum required permit information required for approval on construction documents.
7. Recognize when residential projects can be constructed without licensed design professionals.
8. Understand aspects of the IRC modified by and unique to Massachusetts.

So, come join Worcester County CSI and learn the process to building your dream retirement home. Please RSVP to Terri Bracken at neregcsi@gmail.com



FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FLAME – LIVE DEMO COMBUSTIBILITY TESTING

WHEN: Tuesday April 16, 2019
starting at 5:00PM
in the fire lab

WHERE: WPI Gateway Park
50 Prescott Street
Worcester, MA 01609

COST: Free
Pizza and drinks provided



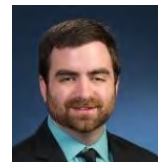
Spray Fire-Resistant Materials (SFRM) and Intumescent Fire-Resistant Materials (IFRM) are common ways to move a building's Construction Type from unprotected to protected classification. If you're an architect or a contractor, you've probably been involved on a project where spray fireproofing has been used in some capacity. But what do you *really* know about its proper design and application? How much do you call for to achieve the rating you need? When is it best to apply it on site? What's a proper installation supposed to look like, and how will an improper installation affect the performance of the system? Well this month we've got answers to questions like that and more, from a couple experts in the field.

This month's program will be held at WPI's Fire Protection Engineering building at the Gateway Park Campus, home to one of the premiere FPE programs in the nation. The building includes a unique "fire lab" where construction materials and other assemblies can be burned to determine combustibility, evaluate smoke evacuation designs, and where the behavior of fire can be controlled and studied. We'll be live-demonstrating the performance of SFRM by burning mock-ups in the lab to illustrate proper performance and show how installation defects and jobsite damage can compromise the fire rating.



Bill McHugh has been Executive Director of the National Fireproofing Contractors Association for the past 5 years, in the fire-resistance discipline for 20 years and in the construction industry 38 years. He participates in the Code Development processes at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Code Council (ICC), State of Illinois and City of Chicago. He has served on the ICC's 'Fire Safety' Code Development Committee, serves on the Fire Protection Features Committee at NFPA, and is a past member of the International Accreditation Services (IAS) Board of Directors. He is also a past Institute Director, Northern Illinois Chapter President and North Central Region President at CSI, the Construction Specifications Institute. Bill can be reached at bill@nfca-online.org.

Ray Ranellone, WPI's FPE Laboratory Director will provide the demonstration of the fire lab and its capabilities and discuss how lab testing can be a method to explore the code-compliance of deviations from listed assemblies. In addition to being the lab director, Ray is an active firefighter/EMT in Brookfield, and a former research engineer and assistant with a Master's Degree in Fire Protection Engineering and Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.



The program is approved by the AIA for 1 HSW continuing education credit. After participating in this program, attendees will be able to:

1. Understand code requirements and test standards for SFRM/IFRM Fire-Resistance, and common UL Listed Assemblies.
2. Be familiar with the process for lab testing listed SFRM assemblies and also deviations from listed assemblies – and their effects on the fire-resistance.
3. Properly specify the 'Special Inspection', QC/QA requirements for SFRM installation, to deliver a code-compliant system.
4. Be able to understand on-site inspection of applied SFRM materials.

There's not a professional among us who can't stand to learn something through the April program. So come join Worcester CSI for as much knowledge and pizza as you can stomach! Register at neregcsi@gmail.com.